



February 9, 2007

Dear Friends:

On February 6th, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform held a hearing: [Addressing Questions of Waste, Fraud, and Abuse In Iraq Reconstruction](#). Ambassador L. Paul Bremer and Stuart Bowen, the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, testified on management of U.S. funds in Iraq. Questions were raised about an audit report issued in 2005 by Mr. Bowen that concluded that more than \$8.8 billion in cash was disbursed without adequate financial controls. [Click here to read my opening statement.](#) [Also, click here to read the Committee memo on the billions of dollars of missing Iraqi development and reconstruction funds.](#)

This week, President Bush released his budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2008, which leads to more war, more debt and more special interest tax breaks. [Click here to read about the impact of the president's budget on Minnesota.](#) The new Democratic leadership of congress will dismantle the president's proposal and start over, reflecting the priorities of American families for quality public education, access to affordable health care and restoring fiscal common sense in Washington through pay-as-you-go budgeting.



Rep. McCollum questions Ambassador L. Paul Bremer and Special Inspector Stuart Bowen at an Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing on the management of U.S. funds in Iraq.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Betty", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Congresswoman Betty McCollum
Serving Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District

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